

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated August 23, 2005. Applicant has amended claims 37 and 39, and cancelled claim 36. Claims 1-6, 8-21, 23-25, 31-35 and 37-39 are pending.

Allowed Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-6, 8-21, 23-25 and 31-35 are allowable in their present form.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 37-39 as being dependent on a rejected base, claim but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In this amendment, Applicant has amended claims 37 and 39 to place them in independent form, including all of the limitations of independent claim 36 from which they both previously depended, and cancelled claim 36. Consequently, claims 37 and 39, as well as claim 38 which depends from claim 37, are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,261,243 to Dunsmore, and under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,389,828 to Thomas. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. However, Applicant has cancelled claim 36 in order to expedite allowance of the Application. Consequently, Applicant submits that the Examiner's rejection of claims 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (a) and (b) is now moot. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the cancelled claim in one or more continuation applications.

Application Number 10/632,122
Amendment dated November 10, 2005
Responsive to Office Action mailed August 23, 2005

CONCLUSION

All claims in this application are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 50-1778. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney to discuss this application.

Date:

11/11/05

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